CONSUMER PRICE

INDEX

REPORT

APRIL 2008

MANITOBA
BUREAU OF STATISTICS

RIGHT ANSWERS
RIGHT NOW

May 21, 2008

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CONSUMER PRICE INDEX – APRIL 2008

	PERCENT CHANGE - ALL ITEMS INDEX	
	APRIL 08/APRIL 07	APRIL 08/ MARCH 08
MANITOBA	1.6	0.8
CANADA	1.7	0.6

The Manitoba all items index rose 1.6% in April 2008 compared with April 2007, up from the March annual rate of 1.3%. Canada's annual rate of price increase in April was 1.7%, up from its March rate of 1.4%.

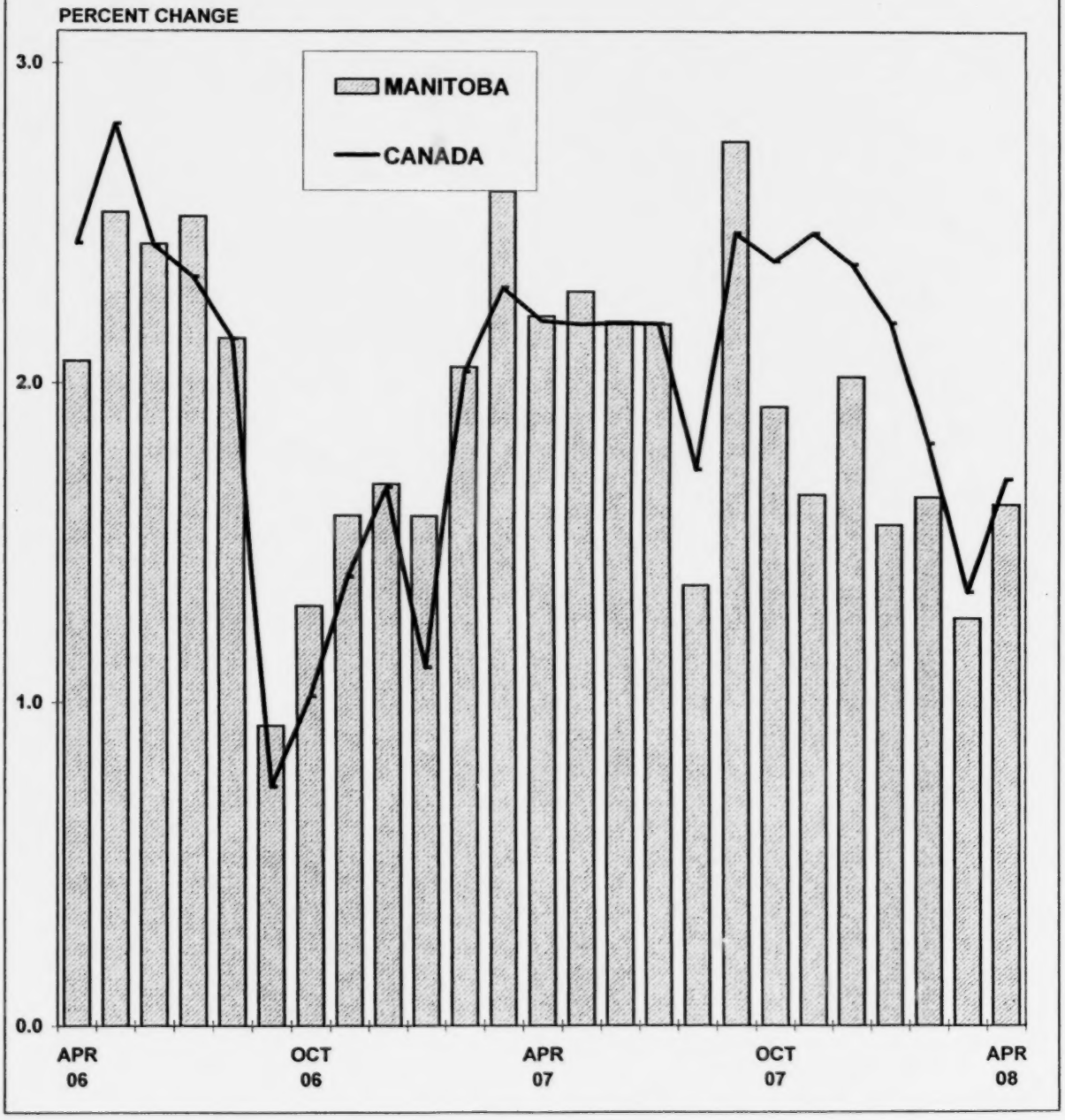
Chart 1 presents a summary of price changes for Manitoba and Canada over the last two years. The method of calculation shown in Chart 1 is the most widely used, and is often referred to by the media as the **"inflation rate"**. It is based on the percent change between the current month and the same month the previous year.

Manitoba's annual inflation rate of 1.6% in April was tied with Quebec as the third lowest among the provinces. Saskatchewan and Alberta both recorded the highest increase at 3.2%, while Ontario recorded the lowest rate at 1.3%. The Winnipeg all items increase was 1.6% in April, up from an annual rate of 1.3% in March.

Between April 2007 and April 2008, Manitoba saw lower prices for the purchase and leasing of passenger vehicles, recreational equipment and services (excluding recreational vehicles), women's clothing, fresh vegetables, furniture, footwear, as well as fresh fruit. These declines were offset by higher prices for gasoline, mortgage interest cost, replacement cost, cablevision and satellite services (including pay television), food purchased from restaurants, other owned accommodation expenses, and bakery products.

On a monthly basis, the Manitoba all-items index was 0.8% higher in April, up from the 0.5% increase in March. Prices were lower last month for women's clothing, footwear, home entertainment equipment - parts and services, traveller accommodation, personal care supplies and equipment, recreational equipment and services (excluding recreational vehicles), as well as prescribed medicines. These declines were offset by increases in gasoline, cablevision and satellite services (including pay television), non-alcoholic beverages, inter-city transportation, homeowners' maintenance and repairs, mortgage interest cost, and bakery products. Prices at the national level increased by 0.6% in April, up from the 0.4% increase in March.

CHART 1. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
MONTHLY INFLATION RATE
MANITOBA AND CANADA



DATA SOURCE: STATISTICS CANADA
MANITOBA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

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CHART 2. CONSUMER PRICE INDICES
PERCENT CHANGE FROM APR 07 TO APR 08
ALL ITEMS: CANADA AND PROVINCES

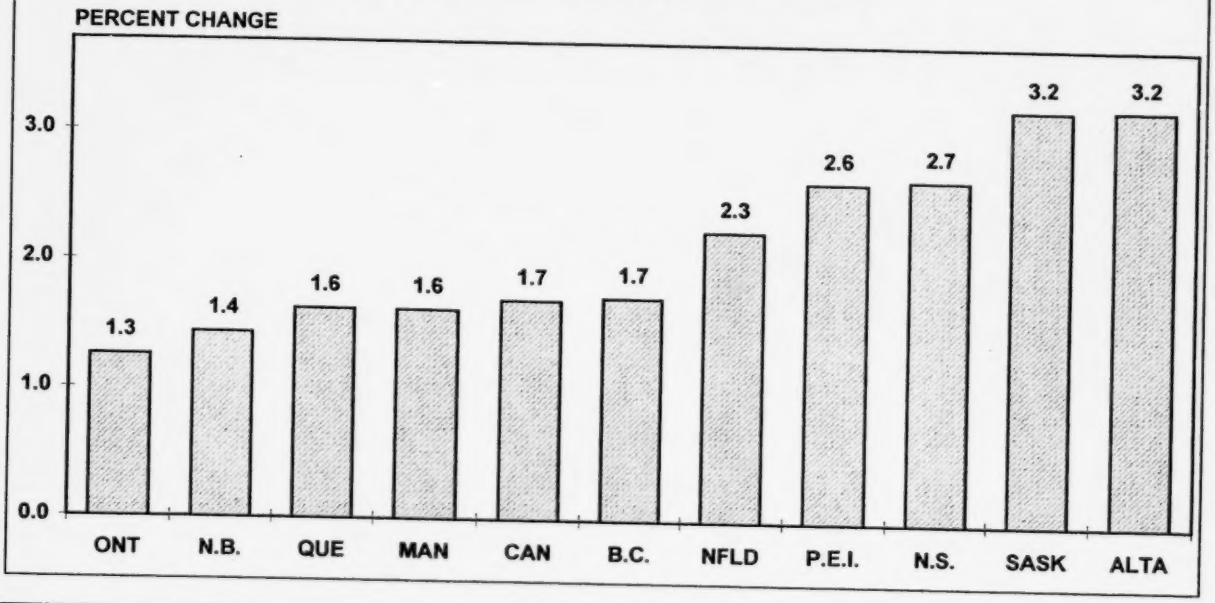
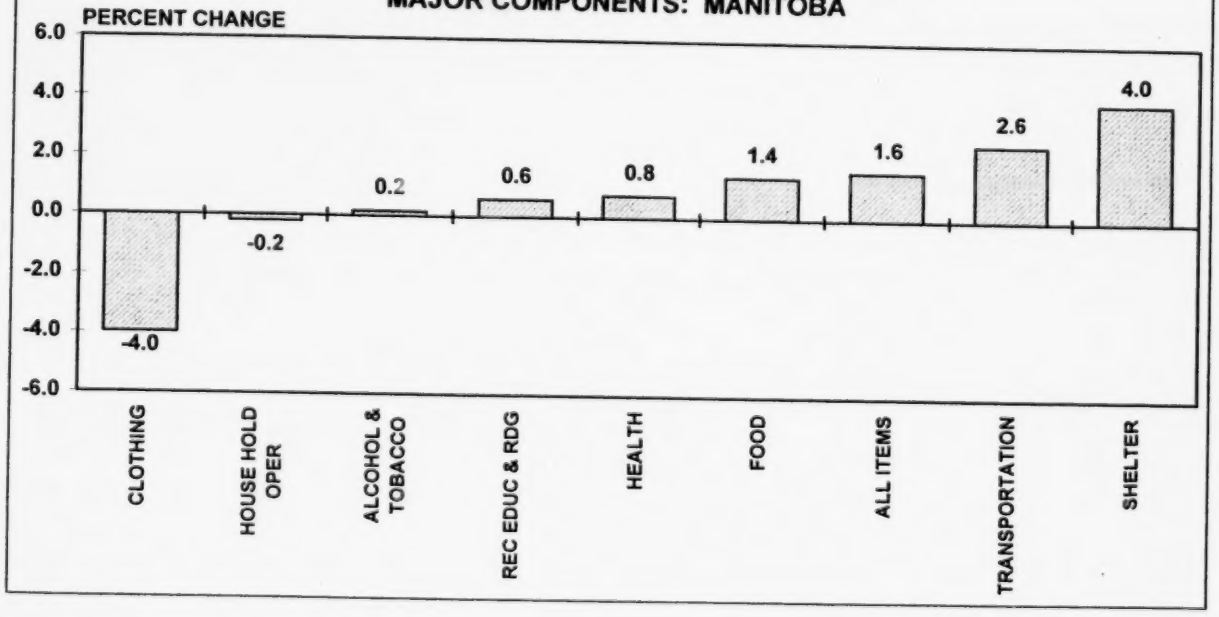


CHART 3. CONSUMER PRICE INDICES
PERCENT CHANGE FROM APR 07 TO APR 08
MAJOR COMPONENTS: MANITOBA



DATA SOURCE: STATISTICS CANADA
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TABLE 1: CONSUMER PRICE INDICES FOR APRIL 2008

(2002 = 100)

	MANITOBA					CANADA				
	APR 08	MAR 08	PERCENT CHANGE	APR 07	PERCENT CHANGE	APR 08	MAR 08	PERCENT CHANGE	APR 07	PERCENT CHANGE
MAIN COMPONENTS:										
ALL ITEMS	112.7	111.8	0.8	110.9	1.6	113.5	112.6	0.8	111.6	1.7
FOOD	114.1	112.6	1.3	112.5	1.4	113.5	112.6	0.8	112.2	1.2
SHELTER	119.0	118.2	0.7	114.4	4.0	121.2	120.1	0.9	116.2	4.3
HOUSEHOLD OPERATIONS AND FURNISHINGS	104.5	104.1	0.4	104.7	-0.2	104.4	104.1	0.3	103.3	1.1
CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	94.3	96.7	-2.5	98.2	-4.0	94.3	96.0	-1.8	97.7	-3.5
TRANSPORTATION	119.6	116.8	2.4	116.6	2.6	120.1	117.8	2.0	118.6	1.3
HEALTH AND PERSONAL CARE	107.0	107.0	0.0	106.2	0.8	108.3	107.9	0.4	106.8	1.4
RECREATION, EDUCATION AND READING	102.4	102.3	0.1	101.8	0.6	101.6	101.3	0.3	100.9	0.7
TOBACCO AND ALCOHOL	125.3	125.3	0.0	125.1	0.2	126.7	126.6	0.1	124.5	1.8
SPECIAL AGGREGATES:										
ALL ITEMS EXCL. FOOD	112.4	111.6	0.7	110.6	1.6	113.5	112.7	0.7	111.4	1.9
ALL ITEMS EXCL. FOOD AND ENERGY	108.7	108.4	0.3	108.0	0.6	109.9	109.6	0.3	108.7	1.1
ENERGY	147.3	141.6	4.0	134.8	9.3	150.2	143.2	4.9	139.1	8.0
GOODS	109.2	108.3	0.8	109.7	-0.5	109.2	108.1	1.0	109.2	0.0
SERVICES	116.6	115.8	0.7	112.2	3.9	117.7	117.1	0.5	113.9	3.3

DATA SOURCE: STATISTICS CANADA

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TABLE 2: CONSUMER PRICE INDICES FOR APRIL 2008

(2002 = 100)

	ALL ITEMS					FOOD				
	APR 08	MAR 08	PERCENT CHANGE	APR 07	PERCENT CHANGE	APR 08	MAR 08	PERCENT CHANGE	APR 07	PERCENT CHANGE
MANITOBA	112.7	111.8	0.8	110.9	1.6	114.1	112.6	1.3	112.5	1.4
WESTERN PROVINCES										
SASKATCHEWAN	115.4	114.5	0.8	111.8	3.2	112.7	111.8	0.8	111.5	1.1
ALBERTA	121.3	119.8	1.3	117.5	3.2	112.8	111.6	1.1	112.0	0.7
BRITISH COLUMBIA	111.8	110.8	0.9	109.9	1.7	110.3	109.7	0.5	109.5	0.7
EASTERN PROVINCES										
ONTARIO	112.5	111.7	0.7	111.1	1.3	113.9	112.8	1.0	112.0	1.7
QUEBEC	112.4	111.7	0.6	110.6	1.6	114.6	114.3	0.3	114.1	0.4
MARITIME PROVINCES										
NEW BRUNSWICK	112.8	112.1	0.6	111.2	1.4	116.4	114.6	1.6	113.7	2.4
NOVA SCOTIA	115.5	114.5	0.9	112.5	2.7	117.6	115.8	1.6	114.6	2.6
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND	116.7	115.8	0.8	113.7	2.6	115.8	115.3	0.4	113.3	2.2
NEWFOUNDLAND/LABRADOR	113.6	112.9	0.6	111.1	2.3	112.5	111.3	1.1	109.5	2.7
* MANITOBA RANK			7		3			8		5

DATA SOURCE: STATISTICS CANADA

MANITOBA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

* Ranking is done in ascending order from the lowest to the highest

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TABLE 3: PERCENT CHANGE COMPARISONS, MANITOBA AND CANADA

(AS OF APRIL 2008)

	(1) CHANGE FROM SAME MONTH LAST YEAR		(2) CURRENT ANNUAL RATE OF CHANGE		(3) 12 - MONTH ANNUAL RATE	
MAIN COMPONENTS	MANITOBA	CANADA	MANITOBA	CANADA	MANITOBA	CANADA
ALL ITEMS	1.6	1.7	7.0	6.2	1.9	2.1
FOOD	1.4	1.2	8.1	4.0	1.5	1.7
SHELTER	4.0	4.3	5.6	6.9	4.0	3.8
HOUSEHOLD OPERATIONS AND FURNISHINGS	-0.2	1.1	6.4	4.3	0.4	1.2
CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	-4.0	-3.5	2.6	9.4	-1.8	-0.9
TRANSPORTATION	2.6	1.3	13.4	8.8	1.9	1.9
HEALTH AND PERSONAL CARE	0.8	1.4	-0.4	3.0	0.7	1.4
RECREATION, EDUCATION AND READING	0.6	0.7	6.5	8.3	1.2	1.1
TOBACCO AND ALCOHOL	0.2	1.8	-1.9	1.0	2.5	2.8
SPECIAL AGGREGATES:						
ALL ITEMS EXCL. FOOD	1.6	1.9	6.7	6.6	1.9	2.2
ALL ITEMS EXCL. FOOD AND ENERGY	0.6	1.1	3.4	3.3	1.4	1.7
ENERGY	9.3	8.0	34.8	36.3	6.0	5.2
GOODS	-0.5	0.0	6.5	7.3	0.4	0.6
SERVICES	3.9	3.3	7.2	5.3	3.5	3.4

DATA SOURCE: STATISTICS CANADA

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NOTE: THERE ARE SEVERAL WAYS TO MEASURE THE ANNUAL PERCENT CHANGE OF THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, COMMONLY REFERRED TO AS THE INFLATION RATE. THE ABOVE TABLE PRESENTS THREE DIFFERENT METHODS:

(1) THE MOST COMMONLY USED METHOD OF REPORTING THE INFLATION RATE, BASED ON PERCENT CHANGE FROM THE SAME MONTH ONE YEAR AGO.

(2) PROVIDES A MEASURE OF THE CURRENT ANNUAL RATE OF INFLATION. THE GROWTH RATE OVER THE PRECEEDING THREE MONTHS IS CALCULATED AND THEN COMPOUNDED AT AN ANNUAL RATE. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THESE CALCULATIONS HAVE NOT BEEN SEASONALLY-ADJUSTED.

(3) COMPARES THE AVERAGE OF THE 12 MONTHS ENDING THIS MONTH WITH THE AVERAGE OF THE 12 MONTHS ENDING ONE YEAR EARLIER.

TABLE 4: CONSUMER PRICE INDICES FOR APRIL 2008: ALL ITEMS

(2002 = 100)

	APR 08	MAR 08	PERCENT CHANGE	(1) CHANGE FROM SAME MONTH LAST YEAR	(2) 12 - MONTH ANNUAL RATE
WINNIPEG	112.6	111.7	0.8	1.6	1.8
WESTERN CITIES					
REGINA	114.4	113.6	0.7	2.6	2.8
SASKATOON	116.9	116.0	0.8	4.5	4.2
CALGARY	121.2	120.0	1.0	3.1	4.1
EDMONTON	121.2	119.5	1.4	3.6	4.7
VANCOUVER	112.1	111.2	0.8	1.9	1.7
VICTORIA	111.4	110.4	0.9	1.4	0.8
EASTERN CITIES					
THUNDER BAY	109.7	108.7	0.9	1.2	1.2
TORONTO	112.2	111.5	0.6	1.3	2.0
OTTAWA	112.1	111.3	0.7	0.9	1.7
MONTREAL	112.2	111.5	0.6	1.5	1.6
QUEBEC	112.0	111.3	0.6	1.5	1.5
MARITIME CITIES					
SAINT JOHN, N.B.	112.7	112.2	0.4	1.3	2.1
HALIFAX	114.8	113.9	0.8	2.6	2.3
CHARLOTTETOWN	116.2	115.3	0.8	2.7	2.2
ST. JOHN'S, NFLD	113.2	112.5	0.6	2.4	1.7
* WINNIPEG RANK (OUT OF 16 CITIES)			11	8	8

DATA SOURCE: STATISTICS CANADA

MANITOBA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

* Ranking is done in ascending order from the lowest to the highest

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NOTE: THERE ARE SEVERAL WAYS TO MEASURE THE ANNUAL PERCENT CHANGE OF THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, COMMONLY REFERRED TO AS THE INFLATION RATE. THE ABOVE TABLE PRESENTS TWO DIFFERENT METHODS:

(1) THE MOST COMMONLY USED METHOD OF REPORTING THE INFLATION RATE, BASED ON PERCENT CHANGE FROM THE SAME MONTH ONE YEAR AGO.

(2) COMPARES THE AVERAGE OF THE 12 MONTHS ENDING THIS MONTH WITH THE AVERAGE OF THE 12 MONTHS ENDING ONE YEAR EARLIER.